REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are currently being considered, of which claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No new claims have been added. Applicant believes that no new matter has been introduced.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings. In particular, the Examiner has suggested that step S204 in Figure 6 does not provide adequate details regarding the type of the block to be considered. The text "TYPE1" and "TYPE2" has been added near S204 to further clarify the information depicted in Figure 6. Figure 6, type 1 and type 2 are described in the original disclosure (see p. 12, line 26 to p. 13, line 24, for example). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that this objection to Figure 6 should be withdrawn.

The term "dismal" has been changed to -- decimal-- to correct a typographical/translation error in the following locations: Figures 3 and 6; p. 11, line 13; p. 13, lines 7, 11, 18, and 22; and the Abstract. A substitute Abstract is submitted herewith.

Before turning to the cited art, a brief review of the present invention is in order. The present invention relates to a motion image decoding apparatus and method which has as one of it features alternating between a first rounding operation biased to increase a numeral value in absolute value and a second rounding operation biased to decrease the numeral value in absolute value.

Claims 1-4 and 7-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by USP 6,584,154 (**Wu**).

Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over **Wu** in view of USP 5,045,925 (**Saito**).

Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejections.

Wu and **Saito**, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features of claims 1 and 7, as amended: "said switching of the rounding system corresponding to alternating between a first rounding operation biased to increase a numeral value in absolute value and a second rounding operation biased to decrease the numeral value in absolute value", in combination with the other claimed features.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the above rejections should be withdrawn.

The features set forth in claims 1 and 7, as amended, are supported by the disclosure as originally filed (see p. 14, lines 9-13, for example).

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/084,369**
Response filed April 25, 2005
Reply to OA dated January 24, 2005

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, all claims currently being considered are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

Darren R. Crew
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 37,806

DRC/llf
Atty. Docket No. **020199**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930

23850
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Replacement Sheets of Drawing (Figs. 3 and 6)
Substitute Abstract of the Disclosure

-12-

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/084,369**
Response filed April 25, 2005
Reply to OA dated January 24, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 3 and 6, and replace the original sheets for FIGS. 3 and 6. In FIGS. 3 and 6, a typographical/translation error was corrected by changing "dismal" to --decimal--. Also, in FIG. 6 the text --TYPE1-- and -- TYPE2-- were added.

* * * *